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Title of the Research	The Impact of Information and Communication Technology on Teaching English Tenses at the Secondary School Level

SYNOPSIS ON

The Impact of Information and Communication Technology on Teaching English Tenses at the Secondary School Level

Submitted to:

Symbiosis International University

Pune

RATIONALE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Society is undergoing a transformation evoked by the rapid development and diffusion of communication and information technology in all walks of life. A high degree of computerization, increase in the volume of electronic information coupled with global access to information, are some of the factors underlying the present process of transformation. Communication and computer technologies have occupied the centre stage of all developments and are making a profound impact on society, e.g. computerized accounting in banks, online payment of property tax, etc.

It has also made a considerable impact on teaching learning process. New types of educational technologies like E-Learning CDs, DVD Lectures, Virtual Classes, etc are emerging at an ever-accelerating pace, paralleling the innovations in information and communication technologies. The implementation of new educational technology in the class helps to shift focus from teacher-centered to student-centered. The explosion in the field of knowledge and information technology has virtually altered the characteristics of the learning environment, paving the way for new learning environments and the emerging new learners. By taking this background into consideration, it is the utmost need of the society for research in the field of use of computers and computer aided technology or information and communication technology in the teaching learning process.

HYPOTHESIS

H1: Use of Information and Communication Technology in teaching of English tenses at the secondary school level helps students to learn content taught better.

H0: Use of Information and Communication Technology in teaching of English tenses at the secondary school level does not help students to learn content taught better.

RESEARCH DONE IN THIS AREA

Ms. Paigaonkar has done research on ‘The Use of Mass Media for Second Language Teaching in India with Special Reference to Radio and Television’ in the year 1978. This research focuses only on the use of radio and television and not the use of computers.

Mr. Sachin Labade has done research on ‘The teaching of tenses at the undergraduate level’ in the year 2006. The research mainly focuses on how to teach tenses to the undergraduate

students. The research does not focus on the use of information and communication technology in teaching of tenses.

There are few more researchers who have completed research work in the area of mass media and English language teaching but they do not focus on the use of computer and computer aided technology or the use of information and communication technology in teaching learning process. So my research is going to be different from the above mentioned works as it is going to focus on the use of ICT in teaching of tenses as a teaching tool.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Based on the analysis of the current scenario, one of the objectives of this study is to help teachers in making teaching learning process more effective, innovative and interesting; and students can learn and use tenses easily and faster. The use of information and communication technology will help the students to retain English tenses life long.

Another objective of the study is to promote Self-Paced Learning. In traditional mode, students have a very little role to play and they are passive for most of the time, but ICT will help them to be active.

Another objective of the study is to widen the mind set of teachers as well as students to accept new technology. This will help them in getting acquainted with the use of computer and computer aided technology.

One more objective of the study is to motivate teachers as well as students to use modern techniques in teaching learning process. Once teachers and students are familiar with the technology, then teaching learning can be fun and this will help to improve the teaching learning process in Indian scenario.

Another objective of the study is to alter the characteristics of the learning environment by using technology and paving the way for new learning environments for the emerging new learners.

SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The Primary focus is going to be on English Grammar. In English Grammar, it will focus on English Tenses. The research will focus on Marathi Medium Schools of Secondary School Level and teaching will be done with the help of computers.

The use of ICT would not only help the students to learn English tenses effectively but also help them to learn other areas of grammar like active-passive voice, direct-indirect speech, etc. with the help of technology.

The study would provide guidelines to the teachers of English on how to use computers and computer aided technology in teaching English in general and tenses in particular. The study would be useful to the teachers of other subjects, as these teachers would come to know about how to use ICT in teaching at various levels.

Teachers would come to know more about ICT and they would become familiar with the use of Computers for teaching of English Tenses at the secondary school level. 'Self-Paced Learning' is possible due to use of ICT. Students can learn or practice on their own with the help of Computers even if teacher is not available. They can practice various exercises based on English Tenses with the help of Computers. They can also practice the exercises based on the various selected topics.

Sometimes lecture or chalk and talk method becomes monotonous and boring but learning can be made interesting and innovative with the help of ICT in teaching. This would help students to retain things for a longer time and teacher would be able to create interest among students. Use of ICT would help teachers to capture and sustain the attention of the class. A concept would be explained by the teacher in the best possible manner to learners.

The focus of the research is only on teaching of English tenses at the secondary level and not any other level. At the same time, it is not going to focus on any other areas of grammar. The research is going to be conducted in Pune city area and the experiments are going to be conducted in Marathi Medium Schools.

METHODOLOGY

Research is defined as an activity, which involves technical and organized search for relevant information on a particular topic. It primarily emphasizes on finding the solutions to problems in a methodical way. Research involves defining and redefining problems, formulating solutions, collecting and organizing data, evaluating data and deducing conclusions from the data to support the formulated solutions.

This research will be ‘Quantitative Research’ and the ‘Experimental Method’ will be used for collecting data. L. R. Gay defines experimental method in *Educational research* as follows:

“The experimental method is the only method of research that can truly test hypotheses concerning cause-and-effect relationships. It represents the most valid approach to the solution of educational problems, both practical and theoretical, and to the advancement of education as a science”.

The methodology for my research would be:

200 students of secondary school level would be selected by random sampling. A pre test would be conducted before the commencement of the course. These students would be divided into two groups, namely, Experimental and Control Groups. Two separate courses would be designed for the study purpose. Experimental Group would be taught tenses with the help of Computers. In this research, ICT is the ‘Independent Variable’ and the Students’ Performance is the ‘Dependant Variable’. The Control Group would be taught without the help of Computers. They would be taught with the help of lecture or chalk and talk method. The researcher would see that the Experimental Group and Control Group will be at par with minimum ‘interference variables’.

A post-test would be conducted to find out the improvement in the students. The study would also focus on the differences in learning between two groups. The statistical analysis would be done of the results with the help of a statistician to find out the improvement in these two groups and to know the significance of difference.

TENTATIVE CHAPTERISATION

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

It would focus on the use of mass media in the past in teaching of English. It would also deal with the development in the field of education due to computers. It will also talk about the need, scope, rationale and aims & objectives of the research.

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

It would focus on the review of literature. It would focus on the concept of information and communication technology and how ICT is useful in teaching learning process. It would also deal with the use of ICT in ELT and in grammar teaching.

CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

This chapter would deal with the methods, techniques & tools to be used for the research. A pre-test and post-test would be conducted for data collection.

CHAPTER IV: DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter would deal with the analysis and classification of data which is collected through pre and post tests, and observations.

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION & MAJOR FINDINGS

It would mainly deal with the findings of the study and suggestions for further research in this area.

POSSIBLE CONCLUSION

The possible conclusion of the research would be that use of computers and computer aided technology or information and communication technology would help learners to learn the content i.e. English tenses in an effective manner and it definitely has a positive impact on teaching learning process.

UNIQUENESS OF THE RESEARCH

India is a developing country and it is in the process of development thus technology is rarely used in most of the Secondary Schools of Marathi Medium. We cannot neglect the importance of technology in teaching learning process and technology will be implemented in near future. The problems in the use of technology, which we see now, will be removed in near future. Our country also suffers from the problem of electricity but in near future computers will run on batteries or without electricity. This research is the direction for implementation of technology as most of the teachers of these schools are not well versed with it and the findings will motivate English teachers to use ICT in the classroom.

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